a first terminal electrically interconnected with a first one of said separable contacts;

a second terminal electrically connected to a second one of said separable contacts;

an electrically conductive support mechanism mounted in said housing; and

a bimetal overcurrent assembly responsive to selected conditions of current flowing through said separable contacts for actuating said operating mechanism to trip open said separable contacts, said bimetal overcurrent assembly having first and second legs and a free intermediate section which deflects in response to said selected conditions of current to actuate said operating mechanism, with the first leg engaging and being electrically connected to said support mechanism, with the second leg electrically connected to said first terminal, with said operating mechanism carrying and being electrically connected to said first one of said separable contacts, and with said support mechanism supporting and being electrically connected to said operating mechanism.

10. (Amended) A circuit breaker comprising:

a housing;

a pair of separable contacts mounted in said housing;

an operating mechanism for opening and closing said separable contacts;

a first terminal electrically interconnected with a first one of said separable contacts;

a second terminal electrically connected to a second one of said separable contacts;

an electrically conductive support mechanism mounted in said housing; and

a bimetal overcurrent assembly responsive to selected conditions of current flowing through said separable contacts for actuating said operating mechanism to trip open said separable contacts, said bimetal overcurrent assembly having first and second legs and a free intermediate section which deflects in response to said selected conditions of current to actuate said operating mechanism, with the first leg engaging and being electrically connected to said support mechanism, with the second leg electrically connected to said first terminal, and with said support mechanism electrically interconnected with said first one of

said separable contacts, said free intermediate section is a U-shaped section electrically connected in series between said first leg and said second leg.

11. (Amended) A circuit breaker comprising:

a housing;

a pair of separable contacts mounted in said housing;

an operating mechanism for opening and closing said separable contacts, said operating mechanism includes a movable contact arm carrying and electrically connected to a first one of said separable contacts;

a first terminal electrically interconnected with the first one of said separable contacts;

a second terminal electrically connected to a second one of said separable contacts;

an electrically conductive support mechanism mounted in said housing, said support mechanism includes a flexible conductor having two ends, with the first end of said flexible conductor electrically connected to said support mechanism, and with the second end of said flexible conductor electrically connected to the movable contact arm; and

a bimetal overcurrent assembly responsive to selected conditions of current flowing through said separable contacts for actuating said operating mechanism to trip open said separable contacts, said bimetal overcurrent assembly having first and second legs and a free intermediate section which deflects in response to said selected conditions of current to actuate said operating mechanism, with the first leg engaging and being electrically connected to said support mechanism, with the second leg electrically connected to said first terminal, and with said support mechanism electrically interconnected with said first one of said separable contacts.

12. (Amended) A circuit breaker comprising:

a housing;

a pair of separable contacts mounted in said housing;

an operating mechanism for opening and closing said separable contacts;

a first terminal electrically interconnected with a first one of said separable contacts;

a second terminal electrically connected to a second one of said separable contacts;

an electrically conductive support mechanism plate mounted in said housing, said operating mechanism is assembled to and supported by said support mechanism plate; and

C1 a bimetal overcurrent assembly responsive to selected conditions of current flowing through said separable contacts for actuating said operating mechanism to trip open said separable contacts, said bimetal overcurrent assembly having first and second legs and a free intermediate section which deflects in response to said selected conditions of current to actuate said operating mechanism, with the first leg engaging and being electrically connected to said support mechanism plate, with the second leg electrically connected to said first terminal, and with said support mechanism plate electrically interconnected with said first one of said separable contacts.

25. (Amended) A circuit breaker comprising:

a housing;

a pair of separable contacts mounted in said housing;

an operating mechanism for opening and closing said separable contacts;

C2 a first terminal electrically interconnected with a movable one of said separable contacts;

a second terminal electrically connected to a fixed one of said separable contacts;

an electrically conductive support mechanism mounted in said housing and supporting said operating mechanism; and

a bimetal overcurrent assembly responsive to selected conditions of current flowing through said separable contacts for actuating said operating mechanism to trip open said separable contacts, said bimetal overcurrent assembly having first and second legs and a free intermediate section which deflects in response to said selected conditions of current to actuate said operating mechanism, with the first leg engaging and being electrically connected to said support mechanism, with the second leg electrically connected to said first terminal, with said operating mechanism carrying and being electrically connected to said movable one of said separable contacts, and with said support mechanism being electrically connected to said operating mechanism. --.